

REMARKS

As an initial matter, Applicants are grateful to the Examiner for indicating allowance of claims 12-16 and 24-32, and allowance of claims 20-23 if rewritten. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application as amended. Claims 12-19, 24-27 and 30-32 have been amended. Claims 1-11, 20-23 and 28-29 have been cancelled without prejudice. New claims 33-41 have been added. Therefore, claims 12-19, 24-27 and 30-41 now are presented for examination.

35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejection

Claims 17-19 as best understood are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Davis, et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,896,382 (“Davis”).

Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner’s characterization of the reference; however, for the sake of expediting issuance of this case, claim 17 has been amended to include allowable limitations. Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejection of claim 17 and its dependent claims.

New Claims

Independent claims 36 and 39 include limitations similar to those of claims 30 and 17, respectively. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 36 and 39 and their dependent claims are patentably distinguished over the cited reference.

Conclusion

In light of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of the claims is hereby earnestly requested.

Invitation for a Telephone Interview

The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

Request for an Extension of Time

Applicants respectfully petition for an extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) should one be necessary. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 to cover the necessary fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a) for such an extension.


Charge our Deposit Account

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: July 7, 2005



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Debbie Casias
Debbie Casias

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